

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application of: Bastiaan Driehuys, et al. Group Art Unit: To be assigned  
Serial Number: To be assigned Examiner: To be assigned  
Filing Date: Herewith  
Title: Diagnostic Procedures Using Direct Injection of Gaseous  
Hyperpolarized <sup>129</sup>XE and Associated Systems and Products

**First Preliminary Amendment**

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please consider the following amendments and remarks in connection with the prosecution of the captioned application, which is a divisional of application number 09/804,369 filed March 12, 2001. This application also claims the priority benefit of United States provisional patent application number 60/189,072 filed March 13, 2000.